

*Summary Guide
for EPA Worker Protection
Standard for Agricultural
Pesticides*

Virginia Department of Agriculture and
Consumer Services
Office of Pesticide Services

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction and definitions	1
Agricultural Owner Exemptions	2
Central Location Display	3
Safety Training.....	4
Restricted Entry Intervals & Exceptions	5
Personal Protective Equipment.....	8
Notification about applications	9
Decontamination & Emergency Assistance.....	11
Additional Handler requirements.....	13
Information exchange	14
Greenhouse	15
Nurseries	18
Crop Advisors	20
Appendix	21
WPS Self Inspection Checklist	
Sample Training Verification Roster	
Sample Pesticide Application Information Form	
Pesticide Application Information Chart for USDA and WPS	
Interpreting Label Personal Protective Equipment Statements	
Important Phone Numbers	

INTRODUCTION

The Worker Protection Standard for Agricultural Pesticides (WPS) is a regulation issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It covers pesticides that are used in the production of agricultural plants on farms, and in forests, nurseries, and greenhouses. The WPS requires you, the employer, to take steps to reduce the risk of pesticide-related illness and injury if you, your family, or the people you employ use or are exposed to such pesticide products.

Labels of most agricultural pesticides contain the Worker Protection Standard requirements. These products have a statement under the *Agricultural Use Directions* section of the label. This statement will instruct users to comply with all provisions of the WPS.

When you are using a pesticide product with labeling that refers to the Worker Protection Standard, you must comply with the WPS - the “label is the law”.

This guide is only a summary of the EPA Worker Protection Standard Requirements. You should refer to the United States Environmental Protection Agency “*The Worker Protection Standard for Agricultural Pesticides—How To Comply*” (EPA 735-B-93-001, July 1993) or to the EPA 1992 Worker Protection Standard (40 CFR Part 170) for details.

WPS DEFINITIONS

Agricultural Workers - any one who performs such tasks as harvesting, pruning, weeding, or watering in the production of agricultural plants

Pesticide Handlers - anyone who mixes, loads or applies agricultural pesticides; cleans or repairs equipment; or performs any task involving direct contact with pesticides.

Agricultural Establishment - any farm, forest, nursery or greenhouse.

Agricultural Owner - any person who possesses or has an interest (fee, leasehold, rental or other) in an agricultural establishment covered by the WPS. A person who has leased an agricultural establishment to another person and who has granted that same person the right and full authority to manage and govern the use of that establishment is **NOT** an agricultural owner under the WPS.

Restricted Entry Interval - The time immediately after a pesticide application when entry into the treated area is limited.

AGRICULTURAL OWNER EXEMPTIONS

Owners of agricultural establishments and members of their immediate family qualify for agricultural owner exemptions while performing tasks related to the production of agricultural plants on their own establishment. **Immediate family** includes **only** the owner's spouse, children, stepchildren, foster children, parents, stepparents, foster parents, brothers, and sisters.



The EPA and the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services encourage you to provide all WPS protections to yourself and your family. Those protections which you are **NOT** required by WPS to provide for yourself or members of your immediate family include:

- information at a central location
- pesticide safety training,
- decontamination materials,
- emergency assistance,
- notice about applications,
- monitoring of handlers,
- specific handling instructions,
- equipment safety.

Incorporated Agricultural Establishments

If your farm, forestry operation, nursery, or greenhouse is incorporated, **all** stockholders of the corporation must be members of your immediate family to qualify for agricultural owner exemptions. If any stockholders are not members of your immediate family, then the corporation is the “owner” for purposes of the WPS and you may not take advantage of the agricultural owner exemptions.

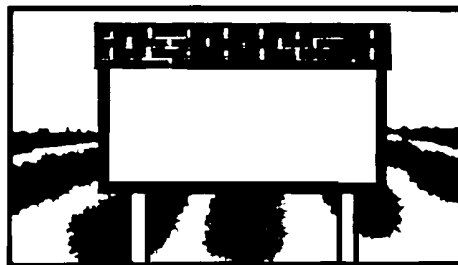
Remember - if you hire any workers or handlers other than your immediate family, you will be required to provide all WPS protections to those employees.

The WPS does **NOT** allow any exemptions for owners of commercial pesticide handling establishments (commercial applicators or custom applicators), or persons who operate or manage, but do not own, an agricultural establishment.

CENTRALLY LOCATED INFORMATION ABOUT PESTICIDE APPLICATION

Information at a Central Location

For the benefit of all employees, information must be displayed at an easily seen, central location on each **agricultural establishment**. That information includes:



- **Application list**, which must include the product name, EPA registration number, active ingredient(s), location and description of treated area(s), the time and date of the application and the restricted-entry interval (REI);
- The **name, address, and telephone number** of the nearest emergency medical facility, and;
- A **pesticide safety poster**, which must be either the WPS safety poster developed by EPA or an equivalent poster that contains concepts displayed on the WPS safety poster.

Employers must tell workers and handlers where the information is posted and allow them access to the information. Be sure that the poster, emergency information, and application list remain legible and notify your employees of any changes to the emergency medical facility information. Display pesticide-specific information when workers or handlers are on your establishment until:

- at least 30 days after the restricted entry interval expires
- at least 30 days after the end of the application, if there is no restricted-entry interval for the pesticide.

Pesticide Safety Training

Employers are legally responsible for protecting their employees from potential exposure to pesticides. Employers' basic responsibilities are to inform employees about the hazards of pesticides, provide them with information regarding the pesticides that are being used, and ensure that employees know what to do in the event of exposure in order to receive proper treatment.



Handlers and workers must be trained every five (5) years unless they are certified applicators. Handlers must be trained before they do any handling activity.

Workers must receive basic pesticide safety information before entering a treated area.. They must receive complete WPS training by the 5th day of entering into an area on an agricultural establishment that has been treated with a pesticide or under a REI in the last 30 days.

The basic pesticide safety information must include the following concepts:

Pesticides may be on or in plants, soil, irrigation water, or drifting from nearby applications.

Prevent pesticides from entering your body by:

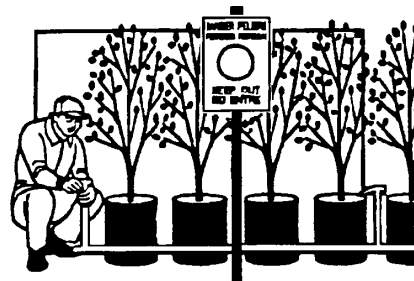
- i Following directions and/or signs about keeping out of treated or restricted areas;
- i Washing before eating, drinking, using chewing gum or tobacco, or using the toilet;
- i Wearing work clothing that protects the body from pesticide residues;
- i Washing/showering with soap and water, shampoo hair and put on clean clothes after work;
- i Washing work clothes separately from other clothes before wearing them again; and
- i Washing immediately in the nearest clean water if pesticides are spilled or sprayed on the body and, as soon as possible, showering, shampooing, and changing into clean clothes;

Training may be conducted by a certified applicator (private or commercial) or by someone who has completed a train-the-trainer program. Anyone conducting training must use written and/or audiovisual materials, present the training orally and/or audiovisually, and present the information in a manner and language that employees can understand, using easily understood terms or if necessary, an interpreter. Training materials must be approved by EPA and trainers must be able to answer trainees' questions.

RESTRICTED ENTRY INTERVAL (REI) REQUIREMENTS

Restrictions During Applications

An employer must keep all **workers** out of areas being treated with pesticides. Only properly trained and properly equipped handlers are allowed in areas being treated. Under some application conditions, nursery and greenhouse workers must also be kept a certain distance from the treated area. See the EPA *The Worker Protection Standard For Agricultural Pesticides-- How to Comply* manual for more information about these restrictions.



Restricted-Entry Intervals (REIs)

The restricted-entry interval is the time immediately after a pesticide application when entry into the treated area is limited. During an REI, **do not allow workers** (including owner and family members) **to enter a treated area** or contact anything treated with the pesticide to which the REI applies. REIs are located on the pesticide label. When two (or more) pesticides are applied at the same time and have different REIs, you must follow the longer interval. A recent amendment reduces the WPS REIs from 12 to 4 hours for certain low risk pesticides.

Exceptions to REIs

The REI restriction has three exceptions, early entry **with no contact**, early entry **with limited contact**, and early entry **irrigation activities**.

Exception for no contact early-entry

No-contact early entry means **NO contact!** Workers (including owners and families) may enter a treated area during an REI if they do NOT touch or are NOT touched by any pesticide residues, including residues found **on plants**, including both agricultural plants and weeds, **on** or **in soil** or the planting medium, **in water**, such as irrigation water or water standing in drainage ditches or puddles, or **in air**, if the pesticide remains suspended after application, such as after fumigation or after a smoke, mist, fog, or aerosol application.

Avoiding contact by using personal protective equipment does NOT qualify as no-contact early entry.

Exception for limited contact

Early-entry with limited contact allows workers to enter a treated area during a restricted-entry interval when pesticides NOT requiring double (oral and written) notification have been used.

For early-entry with limited contact:

- Workers must wait at least 4 hours after the pesticide application is completed before entering.
- Workers must be provided understandable oral or written instructions about the early entry exemption.
- Workers' contact with pesticide residues must be minimal and limited to the feet, lower legs, hands, and forearms. No hand labor (such as hoeing, picking, pruning, etc.) may be performed.
- Early-entry PPE must be provided in accordance with the label, or include, at a minimum, coveralls, chemical resistant gloves, socks, chemical resistant footwear, and eyewear (if eyewear is required by the label).

Each worker may only spend 8 hours in 24 hours in the treated area when performing limited contact tasks and must follow any other restrictions specified in the pesticide's labeling or in any special exception under which the early entry takes place.

Exceptions for Limited Contact Activities

This exception allows workers the flexibility during an REI to perform limited contact tasks that **could not have been foreseen and which, if delayed, would cause significant economic loss**. At the same time, the exception includes significant provisions to limit pesticide exposure and risk to employees performing limited contact tasks. The conditions of the exception for limited contact, early entry activities are:

- The workers' contact with treated surfaces is minimal and is limited to the feet, lower legs, hands and forearms;
- The pesticide product does not have a statement in the labeling requiring double notification (workers must be notified both verbally and by posting of these high toxicity pesticides);
- Personal protective equipment for early entry is provided to the worker and must either conform with the label requirements or include at least coveralls, chemical resistant gloves, socks, chemical resistant footwear, and eyewear (if eyewear is required by the product labeling);
- No hand labor activity (such as, hoeing, picking, pruning, etc.) is performed;
- The time in treated areas under a REI for any worker may not exceed 8 hours in a 24 hour period;
- The workers do not enter the area during the first 4 hours, and until applicable ventilation criteria have been met, and until any label specified inhalation exposure level has been reached;
- Before workers enter a treated area under an REI, the agricultural employer shall give them oral or written notification of the specifics of the exception to early entry. The notification must be in a language that the workers understand.

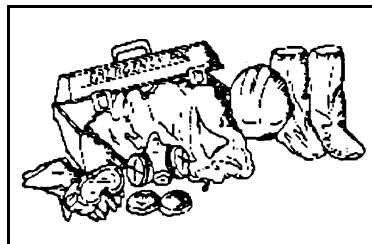
Irrigation Exception

The conditions of the exception for early entry irrigation activities are:

- The workers' contact with treated surfaces is minimal and is limited to the feet, lower legs, hands and forearms;
- The pesticide product does not have a statement in the labeling requiring double notification (workers must be notified both verbally and by posting of these high toxicity pesticides);
- Personal protective equipment for early entry is provided to the worker and must either conform with the label requirements or include at least coveralls, chemical resistant gloves, socks, chemical resistant footwear, and eyewear (if eyewear is required by the product labeling);
- No hand labor activity (such as, hoeing, picking, pruning, etc.) is performed;
- The time in treated areas under a REI for any worker may not exceed 8 hours in a 24 hour period;
- The workers do not enter the area during the first 4 hours, and until applicable ventilation criteria have been met, and until any label specified inhalation exposure level has been reached;
- Before workers enter a treated area under an REI, the agricultural employer shall give them oral or written notification of the specifics of the exception to early entry. The notification must be in a language that the workers understand.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

Employers must provide handlers with the PPE as listed on the pesticide label. The PPE must be maintained in a clean and operational condition. **Employers** must assure the PPE fits correctly and that each handler wears and uses the PPE correctly.



Each handler must be provided a clean place to put on and remove PPE, and a place to store personal clothing. Handlers must not be allowed to wear or to take home PPE.

Employers must also take action to prevent heat-related illness while PPE is being worn.

Cleaning and Maintaining PPE

Employers must make sure that PPE is cleaned according to manufacturer's instructions, inspected, and repaired before each use. PPE that is non-reusable or cannot be cleaned, or clothing drenched with pesticide concentrates labeled *DANGER* or *WARNING* must be disposed of properly. PPE must be washed and dried properly, and stored separately from personal clothing.

Respirator filters, cartridges, or canisters must be replaced as often as required by manufacturer's instructions or when contaminated with pesticides.

The handler employer must make sure anyone cleaning PPE is informed of possible pesticide residues on PPE, of the potentially harmful effects of pesticides, and of the correct ways to handle and clean PPE.

Equipment Safety

Handler employers must make sure that equipment used for mixing, loading, transferring, or applying pesticides is inspected and repaired or replaced as needed. Only appropriately trained and equipped handlers may repair, clean, or adjust pesticide handling equipment that contains pesticides or pesticide residues.



NOTICE ABOUT APPLICATIONS

Employers must notify workers about pesticide applications on their establishment. **In most cases, employers may choose** between oral warnings or posted warning signs, but they must tell workers which warning method is in effect. For pesticides with the following statement on the label, employers must provide both oral warnings and post the treated area:

Notify workers of the application by warning them orally and by posting warning signs at entrances to treated areas.

Oral warnings must be delivered in a manner understood by workers, using an interpreter, if necessary. Oral warnings must include the location and description of the treated area, the REI, and specific directions not to enter during the REI.

Notification on Farms, Forests, and Nurseries

Unless the pesticide labeling requires both types of notification, notify workers either by orally or posting warning signs at entrances to treated areas.

Notification in Greenhouses

In greenhouses, you **must** post all treated areas, except as described below. If the pesticide labeling requires both types of notification, you must also notify workers orally.

Exceptions to Worker Notification

Oral warnings need not be given to:

- any worker who will not be in the treated area, or walk within 1/4 mile of a treated area, during the pesticide application or while the restricted-entry interval is in effect
- any worker who will not be in your greenhouse during a pesticide application or while a restricted-entry interval is in effect there
- any individual who applied (or supervised the application of the pesticide) and is aware of all the information required to be given in the oral warning

Treated area posting is not required if:

- no worker will be in the treated area, or walk within 1/4 mile of a treated area, during the pesticide application or while the restricted-entry interval is in effect
- no workers will be in the greenhouse during this pesticide application or while the restricted-entry interval is in effect there
- the only individuals for whom you need to post applied (or supervised the application of the pesticide and are aware of all the information required to be given in the oral warning.

Posted Warning Signs

WPS-designed signs must be used when you post warnings at entrances to treated areas as described in *EPA WPS How to Comply Manual*. Posted warning signs must be similar to the design shown on this page. Other languages commonly spoken by workers may be substituted for Spanish. Sign size may vary with posting distance and where used.

Warning signs must be posted so they can be seen at all normal entrances to treated areas, including entrances from labor camps. When there are no usual points of worker entry, post the signs in the corners of the treated area or in places where they will be most easily seen.

Signs may be put up no earlier than 24 hours before application, must remain during the REI, and must be removed before workers enter or within 3 days after the end of the REI. Keep workers out during the entire time the signs are posted and keep signs visible and legible while they are posted.

Under most circumstances, signs must be at least 14 inches by 16 inches, and the letters must be at least 1 inch high. EPA does, however, allow the use of smaller warning signs in nurseries and greenhouses. A small sign may be used on farms and forests if the treated area is too small to accommodate the standard sign. Small sign size and posting minimum requirements are as follows:

	Circle height	"DANGER" height	Other letter height	Posting Distance
7"x8" (approx)	3"	7/8"	1/2"	50 ft.
4 1/2"x5" (approx)	1 1/2"	7/16"	1/4"	25 ft.

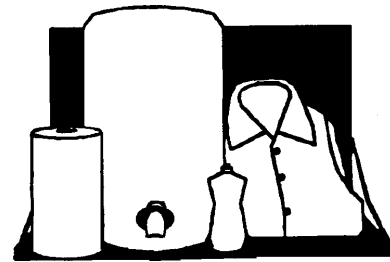
WPS DECONTAMINATION and EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS

Decontamination Materials

Employers must provide materials so that workers and handlers can wash pesticides and residues from their hands and body.

Decontamination materials must include:

- Enough water for routine and emergency whole-body washing and for eye flushing (recommend 1 gallon per worker; 3 gallon per handler);
- Soap;
- Single-use towels; and,
- A clean coverall, for use by handlers.



One pint of emergency eyeflush water must be immediately available if the pesticide label calls for protective eyewear.

Decontamination materials must be within 1/4 mile of the employees' work site. If the work place is more than 1/4 mile from the nearest point of vehicular access, the decontamination materials may be located at the nearest access point.

Handler employers must also provide decontamination materials:

- Where handlers remove their personal protective equipment (PPE) at the end of a task, and;
- At each mixing/loading site.

The decontamination materials may not be located in an area under restricted entry unless they serve handlers working in that area. In this case, all materials must be protected from contamination.

Decontamination supplies (soap, water, paper towels) must be available when a worker enters a treated area and will contact a treated surface and must be maintained for thirty days after the restricted entry interval. Decontamination supplies are required for seven days following the REI for low risk pesticides, defined as pesticides with REIs of four hours or less. This reduced time period does not apply when two or more pesticides are mixed together, unless all of the pesticides in the mix have REIs of four hours or less.

Emergency Assistance

If there is reason to believe that a handler or worker may have been poisoned or injured by pesticides, an employer must promptly make transportation to an appropriate medical facility available to that person. Be prepared to provide the victim and medical personnel with:

- The product name, EPA registration number and active ingredient(s);
- All first aid and medical information from the label;
- A description of how the pesticide was used; and
- Information about the victim's exposure.



ADDITIONAL DUTIES FOR HANDLER EMPLOYERS

Employers are also required to provide additional protections to their handlers.

Application Restrictions

Do not allow handlers to apply a pesticide so that it contacts, directly or through drift, anyone other than trained and PPE-equipped handlers.



Monitoring

Sight or voice contact (radio etc.) must be made at least every two (2) hours with anyone handling pesticides labeled with a skull and crossbones (signal word: *DANGER-POISON*).

Specific Instructions for Handlers

Handler employers must assure that before any handling task handlers are given information from the pesticide's labeling regarding its safe use, have access to the labeling during the entire handling task; and are instructed in the safe operation of the equipment they will be using.

Commercial handler employers must make sure their employees are aware of areas on an establishment where pesticides have been applied or where an REI is in effect and are aware of restrictions on entering those areas.

INFORMATION EXCHANGE

An agricultural employer must be informed when a pesticide is to be applied on his/her agricultural establishment by a commercial handler (commercial applicator or custom applicator). The commercial handler employer must provide the agricultural employer with all the information needed to be posted at the central location, plus:

1. Whether both oral warnings and treated area posting are required; and
2. Any other protection requirements on the label for workers or other people.

The agricultural employer, on the other hand, must make sure the commercial handler employer is aware of all areas on the agricultural establishment where pesticides will be applied or where an REI will be in effect while the commercial handler is on the establishment, and entry restrictions for those areas.



GREENHOUSES

Although most of the requirements of the WPS affect all agricultural establishments equally, there are several special requirements for nurseries and greenhouses. The following requirements, while limited to greenhouses, are NOT the only WPS requirements affecting greenhouses. All other WPS requirements also apply.

Monitoring Handlers

Employers must ensure someone maintains constant visual or voice contact with any handler who is applying or otherwise handling a fumigant in a greenhouse. This includes handlers who enter the greenhouse during fumigation to operate ventilation systems, adjust tarps or other coverings used in the fumigation or to check air concentration levels.

In the event of a pesticide emergency, the person monitoring the fumigant handler must be prepared to enter the greenhouse. This person must be trained as a pesticide handler, and have immediate access to a second set of the personal protective equipment (PPE) that the fumigant labeling requires for applicators so they can enter safely.

Special Application Restrictions

Employers must ensure that workers and other persons do not enter specific areas within a greenhouse during, and in some instances, after certain greenhouse pesticide applications, as referenced in Table 1 on page 16 and in the *EPA WPS for Agricultural Pesticides -- How to Comply* manual. After some types of pesticide applications, ventilation restrictions apply. Ventilation criteria must be met before workers may enter the pesticide-treated area.

Table 1: Special Application Restrictions in Greenhouses

COLUMN A	COLUMN B	COLUMN C	
When a Pesticide is applied:	Workers and other persons are prohibited in:	Until:	After the COLUMN C the entr
1. As a fumigant.	Entire greenhouse plus any adjacent structure that cannot be sealed off from treated area.	The ventilation criteria are met.	No entry re ventilation
2. As a <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ smoke, or ■ mist, or ■ fog, or ■ aerosol. 	Entire enclosed area.	The ventilation criteria are met.	Entire encl
3. Under circumstances (other than 1 or 2) for which the pesticide labeling requires the applicator to wear a respirator.	Entire enclosed area.	The ventilation criteria are met.	Pesticide tr
4. Other than in 1, 2, or 3, but <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ from a height greater than 12 in. from the planting medium, or ■ as a fine spray, or ■ using spray pressure greater than 40 p.s.i. 	Pesticide treated area plus 25 feet in all directions within the entire enclosed area.	Application is complete.	Pesticide tr
5. In any other manner.	Pesticide-treated area.	Application is complete.	Pesticide tr

Refer to page 17 for specific ventilation criteria.

Ventilation Criteria for Greenhouses

After some types of pesticide applications, employers must adequately ventilate the areas in COLUMN B before allowing workers to enter. If COLUMN C of Table 1 indicates that ventilation restrictions apply, make sure one of the following criteria is met.

1. The concentration of the pesticide in the air is measured to be less than or equal to any inhalation exposure level required on the labeling.
2. If no inhalation exposure level is listed on the labeling, keep workers out until after:
 - 10 air exchanges, or
 - 2 hours of ventilation using fans or other mechanical ventilating systems, or
 - 4 hours of ventilation using vents, windows or other passive ventilation, or
 - 11 hours with no ventilation followed by 1 hour of mechanical ventilation, or
 - 11 hours with no ventilation followed by 2 hours of passive ventilation, or
 - 24 hours with no ventilation.

Restricted Entry Intervals (REIs)

The restricted-entry interval is the time immediately after a pesticide application when entry into the treated area is limited. After applicable ventilation criteria are met and until the REI expires, do not allow workers into the area described in COLUMN D. Workers may, however, enter areas just outside the treated area that were off-limits during the application.

NURSERIES

Although most of the requirements of the WPS affect all agricultural establishments equally, there are several special requirements for nurseries and greenhouses. The following requirements, while limited to nurseries, are NOT the only WPS requirements affecting nurseries. All other WPS requirements also apply.

Special Application Restrictions

Employers must make sure that, during certain nursery applications, workers and other persons do not enter treated areas on the nursery, or in some circumstances, do not enter areas that are near the treated area. In some cases, depending on the pesticide application method, workers and other persons are prohibited from entering the pesticide-treated area plus a buffer area up to 100 feet in all directions. Please refer to Table 2 on page 19 and to the *EPA WPS for Agricultural Pesticides -- How to Comply*, for more information.

Table 2: Special Application Restrictions in Nurseries

Column A	Column B
While a pesticide is being applied:	Workers and other persons are prohibited in:
<p>1. (a) Applied</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ aurally, or ■ in an upward direction ■ using a spray pressure greater than 150 p.s.i. <p>(b) Applied as a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ fumigant, ■ fog, or ■ smoke, ■ aerosol. ■ mist, 	<p>Pesticide treated area plus 100 ft. in all directions on the nursery.</p>
<p>2. (a) Applied downward using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ a height of greater than 12 in. from the planting medium; <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ a fine spray, or ■ a spray pressure greater than 40 p.s.i. but less than 150 p.s.i. <p>(b) Under conditions other than described above but for which the pesticide labeling requires the applicator to wear a respirator.</p>	<p>Pesticide treated area plus 25 ft. in all directions on the nursery</p>
<p>3. In any other manner.</p>	<p>Pesticide treated area</p>

PROTECTIONS FOR CROP ADVISORS

SUMMARY OF FINAL RULE AMENDMENT

- Certified or licensed crop advisors and persons under their direct supervision are exempt from WPS provisions except for pesticide safety training.
- The exemption applies only after pesticide application ends and while performing crop advising tasks.
- The exemption describes what constitutes "direct supervision" and the information that crop advisors must convey to those under their direct supervision.
- Certified or licensed crop advisors may substitute pesticide safety training received during certification or licensing, if it is equivalent to WPS pesticide handler training.

APPENDIX

This appendix contains sample forms and guidance documents that VDACS Office of Pesticide Services has developed to assist growers with compliance of the Worker Protection Standard. These forms are only examples and are NOT required for you to be in compliance with WPS. Included are:

WPS Self -Inspection Checklist - This checklist was developed to familiarize the grower with the components of a VDACS WPS inspection and assist them with compliance.

WPS Training Roster - This is a sample that could be used as attendance form for employees attending WPS training and serve as a verification record of training.

Pesticide Application Information Form - This form was designed as an example of how growers might record their pesticide application information and can then be displayed at a central area where the safety poster and emergency information is displayed.

Pesticide Application Information Chart for USDA and WPS - This chart compares the information required for USDA Restricted Use Record keeping and WPS pesticide application information.

PPE Label Statements - This table was designed to help the grower understand the personal protective equipment statements found on the pesticide label.

You are not required to use any of these documents, they were developed only to assist you and provide examples of forms you might want to use or adapt to meet your own needs.

WPS SELF- INSPECTION CHECKLIST

This checklist is designed for the owner of an agricultural establishment to use as a self-evaluation for compliance with the Worker Protection Standard. It is not a comprehensive list of WPS requirements. Complete information on the WPS is found in the EPA *"The Worker Protection Standard for Agricultural Pesticides-How to Comply" What Employers Need to Know*

PESTICIDE SAFETY TRAINING (HTC manual, pp 25-28)

Have handlers received pesticide safety training?

How is training documented? ☐ certification card ☐ handler card ☐ other

Is training conducted by a qualified instructor or a certified applicator?

Conducted by: _____

Is training material used in compliance with WPS?

Have workers received pesticide safety training?

How is training documented? ☐ certification card ☐ worker card ☐ other

Is training conducted by a qualified instructor or a certified applicator?

Conducted by: _____

Is training material used in compliance with WPS?

Name of video or material used _____

CENTRAL LOCATION (HTC manual, pp 23-24)

Is the required information displayed at the central location?

☐ application list ☐ safety poster ☐ emergency info ☐ legible ☐ accessible to workers and handlers

Does the application list include:

- ☐ location and description of area
- ☐ Product name
- ☐ EPA registration no.
- ☐ active ingredient(s)
- ☐ Time and date pesticide is applied
- ☐ Restricted-entry interval (REI)

Is the pesticide safety poster the EPA safety poster?

Is the required emergency information of the nearest facility provided?

☐ Name ☐ Telephone number ☐ Address if medical facility ☐ Legible

How are workers/handlers informed about the location of this information?

NOTIFICATION OF PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS (HTC manual pp. 41-44)

How are workers/handlers informed about pesticide applications and restricted-entry intervals? ☐ oral warning ☐ posted signs ☐ both

If oral warning, when is the warning given?

☐ before the application of the pesticide ☐ after the application of the pesticide

Does oral warning contain: ☐ Location and description of treated area ☐ Restricted entry interval ☐ instruction not to enter the treated area until after REI

How are warnings given to workers who are unable to understand English?

Are all pesticide applications in greenhouse posted?

When posting signs are used for notification:

Where are signs posted? ☐ all entrances to treated area

Was EPA sign used? ☐ Was it legible? ☐ "14 x "16? ☐ other

When are signs put up? ☐ 24 hrs or less before application

When are they removed? ☐ Within 3 days after the end of REI ☐ If no REI then within 3 days after the end of the application

MEDICAL EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE (HTC manual pg 35)

Are all requirements below followed when a handler or worker has been poisoned or injured by a pesticide?

- ☐ Transportation ☐ Product name ☐ EPA registration number ☐ Active ingredient ☐ Antidote
- ☐ First aid ☐ Statement of practical treatment ☐ How pesticide was used

Who provides transportation to the emergency medical facility for worker/handler?

Who is responsible for providing information about the pesticide products to medical personnel/victim?

DECONTAMINATION (HTC manual pg 29)

Worker site

Is the decontamination site easily accessible to the worker?

- ☐ located within 1/4 mile of treated area
- ☐ more than 1/4 mile
- ☐ in an area being treated with pesticides

Is each decontamination site equipped with: ☐ soap ☐ water (1 gal per worker) ☐ single use towels

Handler site

Is the handler decontamination site easily accessible to the handler?

- ☐ located at mixing site
- ☐ within 1/4 mile of treated area?

Is each decontamination site equipped with:

- ☐ soap
- ☐ water
- ☐ single use towels
- ☐ change of clothes
- ☐ immediate access to eye-flush (at least 1 pint of water) when label requires protective eyewear?

Clean place to remove PPE?

Provisions of soap, clean towels and enough water to wash thoroughly after removing PPE?

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) (HTC manual pp 77-79)

Label required PPE provided?

Cleaned & maintained?

Used correctly?

Employer provide instruction on use & fit test?

Inspected each day before use?

Adequate storage for PPE & personal clothing away from pesticide storage & use areas?

Steps taken to prevent heat illness?

Proper information provided to people who clean or launder PPE?

Policy in place to prevent PPE from being taken home?

APPLICATION AND MONITORING: (HTC manual pp 73-76)

Do handlers receive proper information about label requirements related to safe use?

☐ signal word ☐ Human hazard statement ☐ PPE requirement ☐ First aid ☐ Env. precautions

Are handlers provided access to labeling during handling?

Are handlers trained to safely and correctly use all equipment for handling pesticides?

Only trained and equipped handler (s) in application area?

When handling skull & crossbones pesticides, is monitoring done every 2 hrs?

how monitored: ☐ By sight ☐ Voice contact ☐ Both

GREENHOUSE: If a fumigant is being applied, is the handler monitored: ☐ by another handler?

Monitoring by: ☐ constant visual contact or voice contact

Does person monitoring have immediate access to label required PPE?

Was ventilation criteria met (when required by the label) before handlers/workers were allowed to enter the treated area?

EQUIPMENT SAFETY: (HTC manual pg. 77)

Is equipment inspected & repaired before each day of use for leaks, clogging, damaged parts?

Performed by handler?

EPA WORKER PROTECTION STANDARD TRAINING ATTENDANCE FORM

NAME OF VIDEO:

DATE OF TRAINING:

TRAINED BY:

NAME OF TRAINEE

SIGNATURE

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

****PESTICIDE APPLICATION RECORDS**

NAME OF FARM OR BUSINESS_____

WPS requires posting of pesticide application information at central location for 30 days after the restricted entry interval expires

Month date & time	Crop or Commodity	Product or Brand Name	EPA Registration No.	Active ingredient	Location of treated area	# of units or acres	Total amount of product	Applicator information	RESTRICTED ENTRY INTERVAL	
									Duration (Hours)	Expiration Mo/Da/time

****Meets both WPS and USDA restricted use pesticide requirements (USDA requires restricted use pesticide records be kept for two years)**

WPS - <u>ALL</u> PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS (display for 30 days after application)	USDA <u>RESTRICTED USE</u> PESTICIDE APPLICATIONS (maintain records two years)	WPS AND USDA REQUIREMENTS (all pesticide applications - display for 30 days for WPS - maintain 2 yrs for USDA)
Product name	Product name or Brand name	Product name
EPA registration number	EPA registration number	EPA registration number
Location and description of area	Location of the application	Location and <i>description of area</i>
Time and date of pesticide application	Month, day and year	Month, day, year, <i>time of application</i>
Restricted entry interval		<i>Restricted entry interval</i>
Active ingredient		<i>Active ingredient</i>
	Size of area treated	Size of area treated
	Crop, commodity, stored product or site	Crop, commodity, stored product or site
	Applicator's name and certification no.	Applicator's name and certification no.
	Total amount applied	Total amount applied

For more information about the EPA Worker Protection Standard or USDA Restricted Use Recordkeeping Requirements please contact:

Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service
PO Box 1163
Richmond, Virginia 23212
Phone: 1-804-371-4141

INTERPRETING PPE STATEMENTS ON PESTICIDE LABELS

LABEL STATEMENT	ACCEPTABLE PPE
Long-sleeved shirt and long pants	Long-sleeved shirt and long pants, or Woven or nonwoven coverall, or Plastic- or other barrier coated coverall, or Rubber or plastic suit
Coverall worn over short-sleeved shirt and short pants	Coverall worn over short-sleeved shirt and short pants, or Coverall worn over long-sleeved shirt and long pants, or Coverall worn over another coverall, or Plastic- or other barrier-coated coverall, or Rubber or plastic suit
Coverall worn over long-sleeved shirt and long pants	Coverall worn over long-sleeved shirt and long pants, or Coverall worn over another coverall, or Plastic- or other barrier-coated coverall, or Rubber or plastic suit
Chemical-resistant apron worn over coverall or over long-sleeved shirt and long pants	Chemical-resistant apron worn over coverall or long-sleeved shirt and long pants, or Plastic- or other barrier coated coverall, or Rubber or plastic suit
Chemical resistant protective suit	Plastic- or other barrier-coated coveralls, or Rubber or plastic suit
Waterproof suit or Liquid proof suit	Plastic- or other barrier-coated coveralls, or Rubber or plastic suit
Waterproof gloves	Any rubber or plastic gloves sturdy enough to remain intact throughout the task being performed
Chemical-resistant gloves	Barrier-laminate gloves, or Other gloves that glove selection charts or guidance documents indicate are chemical resistant to the pesticide for the period of time required to perform the task
Chemical-resistant gloves such as butyl or nitrile	Butyl gloves, or Nitrile gloves, or Other gloves that glove selection charts or guidance documents indicate are chemical resistant to the pesticide for the period of time required to perform the task
Shoes	Leather, canvas, or fabric shoes, or Chemical resistant shoes, or Chemical resistant boots, or Chemical resistant shoe coverings (booties)
Chemical-resistant footwear	Chemical resistant shoes, or

INTERPRETING PPE STATEMENTS ON PESTICIDE LABELS	
	Chemical resistant boots, or Chemical resistant shoe coverings (booties)
Chemical-resistant boots	Chemical-resistant boots
Chemical-resistant hood or wide-brimmed hat	Rubber- or plastic-coated safari-style hat, or Rubber- or plastic coated firefighter-style hat or Plastic- or other barrier-coated hood, or Rubber or plastic hood, or Full hood or helmet that is part of some respirators

FOR MORE INFORMATION

VDACS Office of Pesticide Services
PO Box 1163
Richmond, Virginia 23218

WPS Technical assistance..... 1-804-371-4141

Enforcement and Field Operations..... 1-804-371-6560

Certification, Licensing, Registration & Training 1-804-786-3798

CHEMTREC 1-800-424-9300

(National Chemical Response and Information Center)

For help involving spills, leaks, fires, and accidents involving hazardous chemicals.

NPTN..... 1-800-858-7378

(National Pesticide Telecommunication Network)

For medical and consumer information on pesticides

Your local extension office

HELPFUL WEB SITES

VDACS Web site:

www.vdacs.state.va.us/regulatory

EPA WPS Web site:

www.epa.gov/oppfead1/safety/workers/workers.htm

